

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-74 and 76-110 are pending in the application. Claims 7-9, 22-24, 31-33, 50-52 are objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent forms. Claims 71-74 and 76-111 are allowed.

In this response, claims 2-3, 7-10, 12, 14, 17-18, 20, 22-25, 27-28, 31-37, 39, 41, 43, 46-47, and 50-56 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 6, 16, 19, 21, 26, 29-30, 45, 48-49, and 57-70 been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

Specifically, claims 7-9 have been amended as independent claims including substantially all limitations of the respective base and intervening claims. Claims 2-3, 10, 12, and 14 have been amended to depend from claim 7 directly or indirectly.

Claims 22-24 have been amended as independent claims including substantially all limitations of the respective base and intervening claims. Claims 17-18 and 20 have been amended to depend from claim 22 directly or indirectly.

Claim 25 has been amended to include an allowable subject matter of claim 7.

Claims 31-33 have been amended as independent claims including substantially all limitations of the respective base and intervening claims. Claims 27-28, 34-37, 39, 41, and 43 have been amended to depend from claim 31 directly or indirectly.

Claims 50-52 have been amended as independent claims including substantially all limitations of the respective base and intervening claims. Claims 53-55 have been amended to depend from claim 50 directly or indirectly.

Claim 56 has been amended to include an allowable subject matter of claim 31.

While Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's position is correct on the merits, Applicant has sought to obtain the claims that were allowed and/or objected to. Applicant

hereby reserves the right to pursue the canceled claims in the subsequent prosecution of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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